

By HUTCHISON.]

[SENATE FILE No. 291.—MUNIC. CORP.]

A BILL

FOR AN ACT TO REPEAL SECTION 520 OF THE CODE OF 1873, AND ENACT A
SUBSTITUTE THEREFOR, PROVIDING FOR THE DISTRICTING OF CITIES
INTO WARDS.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa :

SECTION 1. Section five hundred and twenty (520) of the Code of 1873, is hereby repealed
2 and the following enacted in lieu thereof, viz.: The numbers, divisions and boundaries of
3 all wards of cities incorporated under the general incorporation laws of the State, shall re-
4 main as they now are, until changed by the city council ; but in all cases when the number
5 of voters in any ward shall exceed by one-fourth the number of voters in any other ward
6 of any city, to be determined by the last preceding city election, the city council shall within
7 six months after the taking effect of this act, re-district said city into wards, so that the
8 wards shall have as nearly as practicable an equal number of voters, and so that no ward
9 shall have more than one-fourth more voters than any other ward in any city. In cities of
10 the second-class there shall not be less than three nor more than seven wards, and after the
11 first re-districting under this act no city shall be re-districted oftener than once in three
12 years. Any re-districting of a city into wards other than in conformity with this act, shall
13 be null and void. If any city council shall fail or refuse to re-district any city as required
14 by this act, the circuit or district court of the proper county shall have jurisdiction upon
15 the petition of twenty electors of the city to compel such action by its writ of mandamus,
16 and the trial of the cause shall be peremptory and without delay and take precedence of
17 other business upon the docket.